

CITY OF OAKLAND

AGENDA REPORT

OFFICE OF THE CLERK
CITY OF OAKLAND

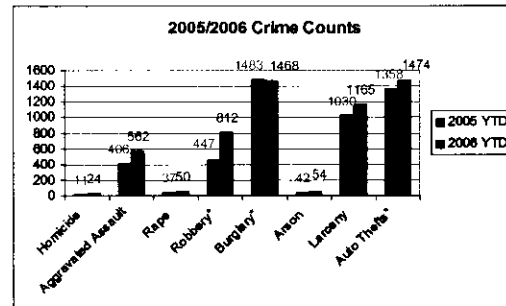
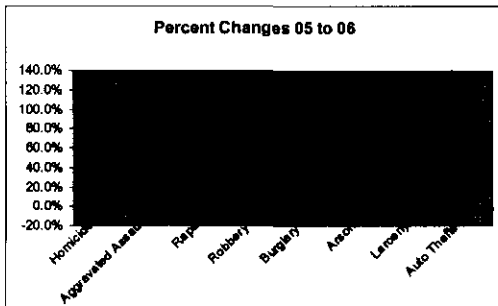
To: Office of the City Administrator
Attn: Deborah Edgerly
From: Police Department
Date: March 14, 2006

2006 MAR 10 AM 10:20

A Report And Resolution declaring an emergency pursuant to the Meyers-Milias Brown Act (California Government Code Section 3504.5) to permit the Chief of Police to redeploy police officers to address the recent surge in crime

SUMMARY

An unpredictable and serious surge in crime has occurred in the City of Oakland since the beginning of this calendar year. For instance, the rate of homicides has increased by 118%; aggravated assaults have increased by 38%; and attempted and forcible rapes have increased by 35%.



Under the direction of the City Mayor and the City Administrator, and with the policy guidance of the City Council, the Oakland Police Department has been attempting to address the serious crime problem through various strategies, including a plan to redeploy officers from various administrative and internal assignments to field patrol, which will increase the number of officers available to protect the residents of Oakland. In addition to experiencing an increase in crime in their neighborhoods, Oakland residents have experienced long wait periods after calling 911 before receiving police service. An increase in police presence will allow officers to respond to calls for service in a timelier manner.

As a result of the problems partly created by the current deployment plan of the Oakland Police Department, OPD has developed new redeployment strategies to immediately increase the number of police officers on the streets, and to determine shifts and work assignments based the need for officers, as indicated by the level of crime, as well as the volume of calls for service.

Item: 4
City Council
March 14, 2006

FISCAL IMPACT

The new redeployment strategies proposed by the Oakland Police Department have several fiscal impact components that will be assessed once the redeployment plan is fully explored and determined. The information is currently not available.

BACKGROUND

The Oakland Police Department is proposing redeployment strategies that will allow the City to address the current wave of crime in Oakland. The plan proposes staffing and scheduling changes that would permit the Department to effectively respond to crime and to the demands for police service.

On March 7, 2006, the Oakland City Council heard Council Agenda Item No. S-25 titled, "The Oakland Police Department Staffing" and, during the hearing, the Council heard testimony from Oakland residents about murders, shootings, assaults, burglaries and other crime that has dramatically increased in their neighborhoods, causing death, injury and anguish. The Council also received a 47-page petition titled, "Enough Is Enough!" signed by over 1000 people who had been the victims of, or had witnessed the criminal activity in their neighborhoods.

After hearing the testimony of Oakland residents, the Council called a special meeting for Tuesday, March 14, 2006 to consider declaring an emergency to permit the Police Chief to implement the proposed redeployment measures to address the surge in crime and protect the health and safety of the citizens of Oakland.

KEY ISSUES AND IMPACTS

By increasing the number of officers who patrol the neighborhoods during peak crime periods, we will enhance police visibility, which is very effective in deterring criminal activity. This increase will also assist in decreasing wait time for citizens who have called for police services, helping the citizens of Oakland to once again feel safe in their neighborhoods. More officers will also be available to respond to incidents of crime and thereby protect the public health and safety.

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

By reducing crime in Oakland we expect that the quality of life of its residents will be improved, and economic growth and prosperity of the City will be sustained, as businesses will be more likely to invest in the City of Oakland.

Item: _____
City Council
March 14, 2006

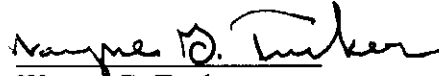
Disability and Senior Access

There are no ADA or senior citizen access issues identified in this report.

RECOMMENDATION


The Police Department recommends that the City Council accept this report and approve the resolution declaring an emergency to allow the Department to deploy its officers more effectively in order to address the current surge in crime in the City.

Respectfully submitted,


Wayne G. Tucker
Chief of Police

Prepared by: Deputy Chief Howard Jordan
Bureau of Investigations

APPROVED AND FORWARDED TO
THE SPECIAL ORA/ CITY COUNCIL:


Office of the City Administrator

Item: 4
City Council
March 14, 2006

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

City Attorney

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
RESOLUTION NO. _____ C.M.S.

2006 Introduced by Councilmember _____

DRAFT

RESOLUTION DECLARING AN EMERGENCY PURSUANT TO THE MEYERS-MILIAS BROWN ACT (CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 3504.5) TO PERMIT THE CHIEF OF POLICE TO REDEPLOY POLICE OFFICERS TO ADDRESS THE RECENT SURGE IN CRIME

WHEREAS, crime in Oakland for the first two months of 2006 continues to increase dramatically, with no sign of abating; and

WHEREAS, **homicides** in Oakland for the period January 1 through March 9, 2006 have increased 118%, from 11 to 24 compared to the same period last year; and

WHEREAS, **aggravated assaults with a firearm** in Oakland have increased 162%, from 50 to 130 compared to the same period last year; and

WHEREAS, **attempted and forcible rape** in Oakland for the period January 1 through March 9, 2006 have increased 35%, from 37 to 50 compared to the same period last year; and

WHEREAS, **armed robberies** in Oakland for the period January 1 through March 9, 2006 have increased 102%, from 321 to 647 compared to the same period last year; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and the City Administrator have directed the Chief of Police to respond to the increase in crime and the Chief of Police has responded by proposing a redeployment plan that will allow the City to address the current wave of crime in Oakland by proposing staffing and scheduling changes that would reassign more officers to patrol in neighborhoods and establish shifts and schedules that would permit the Department to effectively respond to the crime wave and increased demand for service; and

WHEREAS, the Council seeks to avert additional deaths and injuries that might be prevented by providing the Chief the ability to implement a plan to deploy officers to most effectively combat the surge in homicides, assaults, rapes and robberies; and

WHEREAS, on March 7, 2006, the Oakland City Council heard Council Agenda Item No. S-25 titled, "The Oakland Police Department Staffing" and, during the hearing, the Council heard testimony from Oakland residents about murders, shootings, assaults, burglaries and other crime that has dramatically increased in their neighborhoods, causing death, injury and anguish, and, furthermore, the Council having reviewed a 47-page petition titled, "Enough Is Enough!" which was signed by over 1000 people and provided significant evidence about the impact of witnessing or being victimized by such crime; and

4
**SPECIAL
ORDINANCE/COUNCIL
MAR 14 2006**

WHEREAS, the Council by this reference incorporates into the Council's record on this matter, the March 7, 2006 Oakland City Council hearing and documentary evidence submitted on Agenda Item No. S-25 and the Council; and

WHEREAS, the Council called a special meeting to consider declaring an emergency to permit the Police Chief to implement the proposed redeployment plan to address the surge in crime and protect the health and safety; and

WHEREAS, the Council finds that conditions of extreme peril to the safety and health of persons and property have arisen within the City, caused by the serious and violent crime that has dramatically increased in Oakland from January 1 to March 9, 2006; and

WHEREAS, the increase in serious and violent crime in Oakland creates an imminent harm and substantial threat to the health and safety of persons and property and the City Council, as the governing body of the City, must act to protect public health and safety by authorizing the Chief of Police to immediately implement such staffing and scheduling changes as are urgently needed to protect citizens; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council hereby declares a local emergency for the limited purpose of permitting the Chief of Police to redeploy officers in a manner intended to address the surge in crime that has resulted in death, injury and suffering.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____, 20_____

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROOKS, BRUNNER, CHANG, KERNIGHAN, NADEL, QUAN, REID, and PRESIDENT DE LA FUENTE

NOES -

ABSENT -

ABSTENTION -

4
**SPECIAL
ORDINANCE COUNCIL**
MAR 14 2006

ATTEST: _____

LaTonda Simmons
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
of the City of Oakland, California